

**Description of a new species of the genus *Epipsestis* Matsumura
(Lepidoptera, Thyatiridae) from Taiwan**

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Abstract A new species of the genus *Epipsestis* Matsumura is described from Taiwan.

Key words Lepidoptera, Thyatiridae, *Epipsestis cortigera* sp. n., Taiwan, taxonomy.

The members of the genus *Epipsestis* Matsumura are wing in early to late autumn and the investigations of this genus have not fully been made in the most temperate Asia. Up to present, three species of this genus have been known from Taiwan (Yoshimoto, 1984). Recently Mr H. Kobayashi, Tokyo, made several collecting trips to Taiwan in the winter season, and he gave me a chance to examine some interesting autumnal thyatirids. Among them I found a remarkable new species described below.

***Epipsestis cortigera* sp. nov. (Fig. 1)**

♂. Expanse 28 mm, length of forewing 14 mm. Frons and vertex ocher; tegula and patagium ochereous; abdomen with a black dorsal crest on the third segment. Forewing with ground color ochereous, irrorated with fuscous in antemedian and subcostal areas, and tinged with some olive tone in basal area; a basal streak of raised scales short; antemedian line black, diffused with fuscous tinge, oblique from costa to submedian fold, then excurved to hind margin; two thin and black lines beyond antemedian line, minutely waved; a thin black bar of raised scales in cell beyond these two lines and a minute black point at lower angle of cell; median area below subcosta tinged with pale gray; postmedian line blackish, double but the inner line nearly obsolete, emerging from wide and diffuse fuscous bars on subcosta, excurved beyond cell and oblique to hind margin; a thin and minutely serrate black line beyond postmedian line from a costal trigonal shade before apex to hind margin; subterminal line pale gray, minutely waved; apical streak black, angled at vein 7; terminal line represented by a series of black lunules; cilia pale ocher rayed with black beyond veins. Hindwing pale grayish fuscous, a little paler in basal and inner area; cilia pale grayish fuscous with a pale ochereous basal line.

Male genitalia (Fig. 2). Uncus moderate in length, with a pair of small ventral proces-

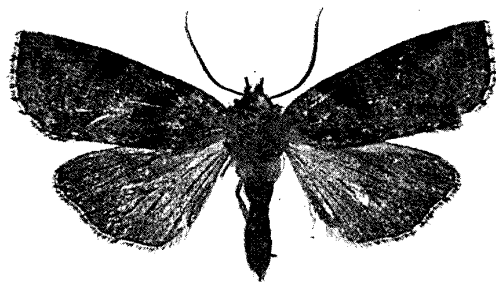


Fig. 1. *Epipsestis cortigera* sp. n., ♂, holotype, Taiwan, Ilan Hsien.

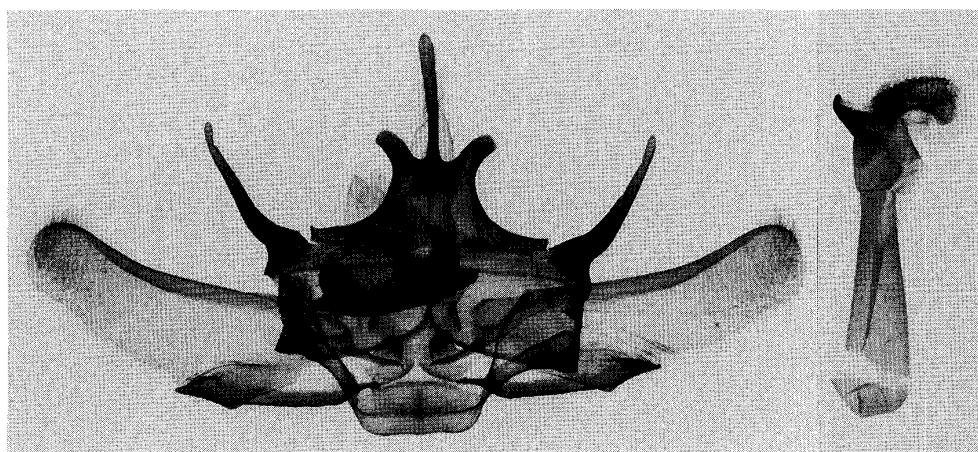


Fig. 2. Male genitalia of *Epipsestis cortigera* sp. n., holotype.

ses; socius long and acute; tegumen broad and not so high; anellus wide at base, clothed with minute dents especially near lateral sides; valva narrow, with sacculus angulate in ventral margin and its tip raised and minutely dentate. Aedeagus with caudal process curved before tip; vesica with a mass of short spines.

Holotype. ♂, Taiwan, Ilan Hsien, Szuyuanakou (1,800 m), 10. xii. 1993, H. Kobayashi leg., in my collection.

The genus *Epipsestis* has so far been known to comprise 13 species from NE Himalaya, China, N. Thailand, Taiwan, Korea, Japan and Ussuri (Yoshimoto, 1988, 1993). Genitalic diversity is considerable especially in the male, and this new species is well characterized by the extraordinarily elongated socius.

In the genus, *E. nikkoensis* (Matsumura, 1921), *E. castaneata* (Warren, 1915) and this new species share the same characters that the third abdominal segment has a dorsal crest and that in the male genitalia, cornuti on vesica are of easily defoliate thick spines. When extracting these three as one monophyletic group from *Epipsestis*, it is possible to introduce a genus-group name *Neopsestis* Matsumura, 1933, with its type species *Polyploca nikkoensis* Matsumura, 1921, for them.

Chang (1989) illustrated two species of *Epipsestis* from Taiwan, but *E. bilineata* (Warren) he showed is *E. dubia* (Warren) in truth. More recent Wang's (1995) figure of *bilineata* is also *dubia*.

Acknowledgments

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摘 要

台湾産ムラサキトガリバ属の1新種 (鱗翅目, トガリバガ科) (吉本 浩)

Epipsestis cortigera sp. n. を記載した. 模式産地は台湾宜蘭県思源啞口 (1,800 m). この属は秋から冬にかけて出現するトガリバの一群で, 台湾からはこれまで3種が知られていた. 今回記載したものは, 腹部3節背面に黒色の冠毛を持つことなどでニッコウトガリバやヒマラヤの *E. castaneata* (Warren) に近似するが, ♂交尾器 *socius* が細長く角状に突出することで容易に区別できる.

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